Navy Department,

Oct. 8. 1861.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 30th ultimo, in relation to your system of Telegraphing.

The superiority of your proposed improvement in telegraphic communications, and how far, it is adapted to the wants of the naval service, can only be determined by trial and comparison, An investigation, if made, should be thorough, and would require the time and attention of officers already fully employed. It is therefore deemed inexpedient to divert the necessary force from their pressing duties for the purpose of experimenting with new inventions that are daily brought to the

attention

attention of the Department.

I am respectfully,

Your obt. svt.

Gideon Hobbes

Messrs

Lewis & Goodwin,

Albany, N.Y.

G. Gideon Wells.

Letter Oct 5th 1861.

Gideon Welles

1802 – 1878

American Political Leader.

Assisted in formation of the Republican Party in Connecticut.

On inauguration of Pres. Lincoln in 1861 he was appointed Secretary of the Navy, a position which he held until the close of Pres. Andrew Johnson's Administration in 1869.

(Encyl. Brit.)

In 1874 Welles published "Lincoln and Seward".

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Col. Eugene Prince

1- Ms. letter from Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy, Navy Dept. Oct. 8, 1861 to Messrs. Lewis and Godwin of Albany, N.Y. re a System of Telegraphy.

2- An octavo mezzotint of the landing of the Transatlantic Cable at Newfoundland in 1858.

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